

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blunt:

I am enclosing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development's review of the analysis of risks posed by a hypothetical situation occurring at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site prepared by EMSI, a contractor working for the Potential Responsible Party group. This review reflects the EPA's best technical assessment of risks that may arise should the sub-surface heating event in the Bridgeton Sanitary Landfill encounter hazardous materials, specifically radiologically-impacted material (RIM), located within Operable Units established by the EPA to manage Superfund responsibilities.

You requested this study be prepared during your January 23, 2014, West Lake Landfill site visit.

The ORD review evaluated the PRPs assumption of a Subsurface Smoldering Event encountering RIM material; a situation for purposes of risk assessment that the EPA believes has an extremely low probability of occurring. Actions now underway to order the PRPs to construct an isolation barrier between the Bridgeton sub-surface heating event and the RIM, and to enlist the Army Corps of Engineers to manage this construction project, will further reduce that extremely low probability.

I appreciate your continued efforts to inform your constituents, to assist the EPA in carrying out its responsibilities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, and to support the EPA's focused and coordinated efforts to protect the health and safety of Missourians who live and work near the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site.

If we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 913-551-7006, or your staff may call LaTonya Sanders, Congressional Liaison, at 913-551-7555.

Sincerely,

Karl Brooks

Enclosure

OPA:SANDERS:ls:03-25-14:bluntwestlakeordreview

Sanders OPA	Tapia SUPR	Carey OPA	Hague RGAD	Brooks RGAD
03/ /14	03/ /14	03/ /14	03/ /14	03/ /14